

U.S. Serial No.: 09/931,465

REMARKS

This reply is responsive to the Office Action mailed on February 8, 2006. Claims 1-57 are pending in the application. By this Response, claims 28-57 are canceled without prejudice. The Examiner restricted the outstanding claims to three groups: Group I, Group II, and Group III. In the Office Action, Group II appears to mistakenly include claims 18-45. Applicants assume that the Examiner meant to list claims 28-45 as being part of Group II. Applicants elect Group I with traverse.


Conclusion

Having fully responded to the Office action, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Should any issues arise that prevent early allowance of the above application, the examiner is invited contact the undersigned to resolve such issues.

To the extent an extension of time is needed for consideration of this response, Applicant hereby request such extension and, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account number 502117 for any fees associated therewith.

Date: MARCH 6, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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